

Matters of the Heart

Take Heart Alaska's Quarterly Newsletter

Issue #4

Summer 2009



The Redesigned Take Heart Alaska Website Goes Live!

www.takeheart.alaska.gov

Dear Take Heart Alaska Members, partners, and listserv recipients,



The Take Heart Alaska website has been redesigned and is now “live.” Please visit the new website soon. The website will be the major point of information for all coalition/committee members. The Share Point format of the site will allow further interactive capabilities in the future. Please check the website frequently for updated information....and spread the word!

Upcoming Coalition Evaluation Project

As required by the CDC for all Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program coalitions the Take Heart Alaska Coalition will undergo an evaluation in mid-September. The final evaluation report results will be available by early October.

Program Design and Evaluation Services (PDES) is the organization that will perform the evaluation. A summary of the evaluation process, as described by PDES, is as follows:

Plans for the evaluation have been developed with feedback from coalition stakeholders (members of the steering committee), as well as evaluation personnel from State of Alaska and the CDC. These individuals have agreed to participate in the Evaluation Advisory Group (EAG), and will continue to provide feedback during evaluation implementation, data analyses, and presentation of results...Continued on Page 2.

**Take Heart
Alaska**

Alaska's Cardiovascular
Health Coalition

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“Evaluation” continued from Page 1.....

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess member perceptions about the functioning and accomplishments of the Take Heart Coalition, and investigate perceptions on how to improve the Coalition and the partnership between the Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program and cardiovascular health stakeholders across the state. ..The evaluation will consist of: 1) an online survey with all members of the Coalition listserv, and 2) key informant interviews with selected current and past members of the Coalition steering committee.

All coalition members should expect to receive an evaluation e-mail survey in mid-September. Please participate in this evaluation. Your input will be very valuable to the future direction of the Take Heart Alaska Coalition.

The Future of the “Matters of the Heart” Newsletter

It has now been over a year since the first edition of the “Matters of the Heart” newsletter was produced. This newsletter was created as the primary information source during the redesign of the Take Heart Alaska website. Now that the new THA website is “live,” the function of the newsletter will be changing. During the coalition evaluation in September, participants will be asked some questions about the newsletter. The newsletter will become a briefer newsletter, an adjunct to the website, and incorporate suggestions from the evaluation into new design.

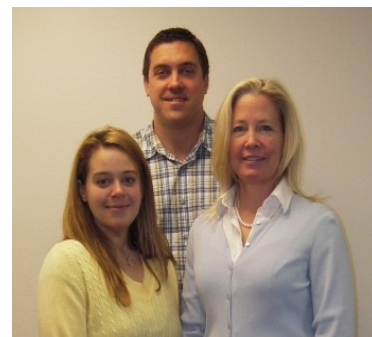
Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program (HDSP) Updates

Changes in HDSP Personnel

HDSP Program Manager/Nurse Consultant Lee Peterson and Office Assistant Tami Bell will both be leaving the State of Alaska Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program in Early October. Lee has accepted a position as Nurse Consultant II in emergency preparedness with the section of Public Health Nursing. Tami will be moving to Colorado.

Both Lee and Tami send their best wishes to all in the Take Heart Alaska Coalition. Lee is certain that she will rejoin the Take Heart Alaska Coalition as a member in the near future. Please check the website for updates as new HDSP program staff are hired.

Thank you all for your efforts to prevent heart disease and stroke in Alaska!



From Left - Right:
Tami Bell, Russ Stevens,
Lee Peterson